DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 126 687 FL 007 720

TITLE	Germany Looks Towards U.S. Bicentennial.
INSTITUTION	German Information Center, New York, N.Y.
PUB DATE	Jun 75
NOTE	12p.
AVAILABLE FROM	German Information Center, 410 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.83 HC-$1.67 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Cultural Exchange; *German; Graduate Professors; *Higher Education; *Intercultural Programs; Professors
IDENTIFIERS	Bicentennial; *Germany

ABSTRACT

This bulletin discusses and describes four projects constituting Germany's contribution to the American Bicentennial: (1) the establishment of the John J. McCloy Foundation for German-American exchange, (2) the permanent endowment of the Theodor Heuss chair at the Graduate Faculty of Political and Social Science at the New School for Social Research in New York, to be held yearly by a visiting German scholar, (3) the establishment of a chair for a visiting professor at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., and (4) the gift of a planetarium-projector to the planetarium in the Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. Further bicentennial projects in the form of cultural contributions include various performances, exhibits, films, and publications. A discussion of German contributions to the Bicentennial celebrations as a public demonstration of partnership between Germany and the United States is included in the bulletin, along with a list of interesting facts concerning German contributions to American history. (CLK)

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SCHEEL ANNOUNCES GERMAN PARTICIPATION IN THE AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL

Federal Republic of Germany

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

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FOR RELEASE 8 p.m. EDT, June 16, 1975

PLEASE OBSERVE EMBARGO

June 16--The President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Walter Scheel, told U.S. President Gerald Ford at a White House dinner tonight that the German people had gladly responded to the invitation to join in the celebration of the American Bicentennial. "The 200th anniversary of the United States," he said, "is for us a joyful and festive occasion to commemorate the many ties between us and America, in the past and in the present."

Recalling that of 205 million Americans interviewed by the Bureau of Census, 25 million had emphasized their "German heritage," President Scheel went on to say that the German contributions to the Bicentennial would be designed to "help in both nations to increase awareness of the multitude of links and to develop them further. Therefore," he added, "it seemed important to us to strengthen personal contacts between the German and the American peoples."

The specific projects announced by Mr. Scheel include:

1) Establishment of the John J. McCloy Foundation for German-American Exchange under the auspices of the American Council on Germany.* The main purpose of the foundation will be to facilitate study tours and participation in German-American conferences by young politicians, journalists, and labor and business representatives. In pursuing this aim, the foundation will continue the work of John J. McCloy, American High Commissioner in Germany after World War II, who, over the past thirty years, has come to stand for German-American friendship and cooperation.

2) The permanent endowment of the "Theodor Heuss Chair" at the Graduate Faculty of Political and Social Science at the New School for Social Research in New York. The chair is held each year by a distinguished visiting scholar from Germany.**

3) Establishment of a chair for a visiting professor at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.*** This professorship is to strengthen the close ties and cooperation between the school and academic institutions in the Federal Republic of Germany.

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4) The gift of a sophisticated planetarium-projektor for the "Einstein-Spacearium," a planetarium in the new Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington. The name "Einstein-Spacearium" honors perhaps the most eminent modern physicist who when forced to leave Germany, found a new home, life, and work in the United States. The dedication ceremonies for the planetarium will include the premier performance of an electronic composition, "Sirius," by Karl-Heinz Stockhausen commissioned for the occasion. The work is dedicated to "the American Pioneers on Earth and in Space."

In addition to the projects announced by Mr. Scheel, the German Federal Government is planning a number of cultural contributuions to the celebration of the American jubilee. These include:

1) Performances of the "Deutsche Oper Berlin," the "Berlin Philharmonics" with Herbert von Karajan, and the Duesseldorf "Deutsche Oper am Rhein;"

2) Participation by the German Navy Training Bark "Gorch Fock" in "Operation Sail 1976;"

3) An exhibition on German immigration to the United States entitled "Participation in a New Nation;" an exhibition of "Book Publishing in Germany;"

4) Publications on German immigration and German-American relations;

5) A documentary film about Carl Schurz, an immigrant after the 1848 revolution, who later became a prominent supporter of Abraham Lincoln and was elected U.S. Senator from Missouri, 1869 to 1875.

6) The issuance of a German commemorative stamp;

7) Appearances by German groups at the Smithsonian Festival of American Folklife in 1975 and 1976.

Former Federal Finance Minister Alex Moeller serves as coordinator for the German Federal Government's participation in the American bicentennial. He assumed this responsibility upon the personal request of former German Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt, renewed by the present Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

The value of the contributions and gifts of the German Federal Government is approximately $ 5 million.

Other plans for participation in the jubilee are being made by individual German states, cities, and private groups. Official delegations from German states will visit some of the American states that are home to especially large numbers of Americans of German descent.

A Genealogical Center will be established in Philadelphia to help Americans of German descent trace their ancestry.

There will be mutual visits by athletic teams. And in Germany itself, a large number of cultural events--some with American participation--are planned to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the American revolution.

Coordinator for these projects is Heinz Krekeler, the first Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United States.

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**The Graduate Faculty of the New School for Social Research in New York is the present-day continuation of the "University in Exile" founded by Alvin Johnson in 1933, to offer a home to German and European emigre scholars. Among these were Thomas Mann, Fritz v. Unruh, Arnold Brecht, Hermann Kantorowicz, Hans Simons, Max Wertheimer and Hans Staudinger.

The close ties between the Graduate Faculty and the Federal Republic of Germany are of long standing. The Theodor Heuss-Chair dates back to a 1958 proposal by then German Federal President Theodor Heuss. It was first inaugurated in 1962 and, before its permanent endowment, as of 1964,was supported by the Volkswagen Foundation.

Since 1965, the following German scholars have come to the Graduate Faculty as Theodor Heuss Professors:

Professor Dr. Otto von der Gablentz of the German Academy for Political Science and the Free University of Berlin

Professor Dr. Juegen Habermas of the University of Frankfurt

Professor Dr. Renate Mayntz of the Free Univeristy of Berlin

Professor Dr. Iring Fetscher of Goethe University of Frankfurt

Professor Dr. Martin Irle of the University of Mannheim

Professor Dr. Urs Jaeggi of the University of Bochum

Professor Dr. Heimrich Popitz of the University of Freiburg

Professor Dr. Freidrich H. Tenbruck of the University of Tubingen

Professor Dr. Carl Graumann of the University of Heidelberg

Professor Dr. Peter C. Ludz of the Free University of Berlin
and Geschwister Scholl Institute (for Political Science), University of Munich

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*The American Council on Germany is a private, non-profit, political and educational organization. Its aim is to foster deeper understanding between the U.S. and the Federal Republic of Germany by providing information and facilitating contacts in vital areas which affect the two nations bilaterally and multilaterally.

Among its activities, the ACG, in operation since 1952, has sponsored many high-level German-American conferences, meeting alternately in Germany and the U.S.

The Honorable John J. McCloy, former U.S. High Commissioner in Germany and first U.S. Ambassador to Bonn, serves as Chairman of the Board. Other officers include John Diebold, Dean Richard M. Hunt (Harvard), Eric M. Warburg. The 20-person Board of Directors includes all of the above and in addition to, among others, Dr. Guido Goldman, The Hon. George C. McGhee, The Hon. Sargent Shriver and the Hon. Paul A. Volcker. The membership consists of a group of 100 prominent Americans with a strong interest in and knowledge of the Federal Republic of Germany.

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***Founded in 1789, Georgetown University is the nation's oldest Catholic institution of higher learning. Its five undergraduate schools, three professional schools and the Graduate School enrolled more than 10,600 students during the past academic year.

The German Chair at Georgetown University was established in 1973 with funds from the Volkswagen Foundation. It was held -

from September to December, 1973 by Professor Werner Link of Kassel University;

from January to May, 1974 by Professor Udo Kollatz (General Education), today State Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation (Development Aid);

from September, 1974 through April, 1975 by Professor Christoph Sasse (Economic Science) of Hamburg University;

As of September, 1975 (appointed for the academic year) Professor Wilehlm Hankel (Economic Science), Frankfurt University, on leave at Harvard.

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GERMANY LOOKS TOWARDS U.S. BICENTENNIAL

2, 6/23/75

Federal Republic of Germany

For Immediate Release

MOELLER SEES GERMAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO U.S. JUBILEE AS PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION OF PARTNERSHIP

"We must always remember that Europe could not have recovered from World War II like it did without the United States, and the American bicentennial is a proper occasion to demonstrate our gratitude and our solidarity now." This sentence sums up the philosophy of Alex Moeller, the Special Representative of the German Federal Chancellor for the German Federal Government's participation in the American bicentennial.

In the U.S. recently for the announcement of Germany's contribution to the jubilee celebrations by Federal President Walter Scheel, Mr. Moeller stressed once again that close German-American relations were a fundamental element of any German policy.

"In the past few years the Americans have had to jump over many hurdles and have had to make many difficult decisions," he said in a statement in New York, and "the Germans in the Federal Republic have been and will remain the kind of friends upon which America can rely.

"The forthcoming 200th anniversary of American independence offers us a welcome occasion clearly to prove our solidarity with the United States and to make the public aware of it. The principle of liberty as the basic tenet of our common philosophy stands and falls with the United States," Mr. Moeller emphasized. "Thus the Federal President's visit was an important step towards an equal partnership at this time of growing American receptivity."

Alex Moeller was born in Dortmund on April 26, 1903, a son of a railroad worker. And the railroad workers' union was the area of his first political activity for the trained journalist. A member of the SPD since 1922, he became the youngest member of the Prussian diet in 1928, and was taken into "protective custody" by the National Socialist government in 1933. He reentered political life in 1946 with the SPD, first in Baden-Wuerttemberg and later on the national level. From 1969 until May of 1971, he served as Federal Finance Minister in the Social/Liberal Coalition Government. Instrumental in establishing "The German Marshall Fund in the United States" in 1972, Mr. Moeller was asked by then Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt in 1973, to serve as his special representative for the American bicentennial. The appointment was renewed later by Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

Mr. Moeller is widowed and has two children.

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Did You Know That ...?

(Some interesting and curious facts on German contributions to American history)

...the name "America" was first used for the new continent by the German cartographer Martin Waldseemueller who in his "Cosmographiae Introducio" of 1507 mistakenly attributed the discovery of the new world to the Italian navigator Amerigo Vespucci?

***

...Peter Minuit who bought Manhattan from the Indians in 1626 and erected the fort known today as the Battery, was born in Wesel, Germany?

***

...the first formal protest against slavery was drawn up by German settlers in Pennsylvania under the leadership of Franz Daniel Pastorius, who wrote in 1688: "Here we have freedom of religion as it is just and right. But we should also have freedom of the body, except for evil-doers. ... In Europe, many are oppressed for their religion. Here there are those who are oppressed for the sake of their black skin..."?

***

...the first Intercolonial Congress in the United States was convened in New York by Frankfurt-born Jakob Leisler after a successful revolt against an oppressive colonial regime. Although he was hanged by the English and later exonorated, his revolt is credited by historians today with moving the colonies towards provincial status?

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...Peter Zenger's exposure of local corruption in his "New Yorker Weekly Journal" led to his arrest in 1773, and a trial that became a milestone in defending the freedom of the press?

***

...that the first newspaper to print the Declaration of Independence was "Heinrich Miller's Pennsylvanischer Staatsbote" in its issue of Tuesday, July 9, 1776?

***

...Prussian officer Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben not only shaped Washington's army into an effective fighting body while wintering in Valley Forge in 1777/78, but--as legend has it--also created the expression "o.k.," his version of "oll korrekt."

***

...George Washington's bodyguard in the Revolutionary War was made up of German settlers, that most of the 275,000 Germans then in America sided with the revolution and that of the Hessians who were literally sold by their princes to the English army, 5,000 went over to the Americans?

***

...the famous painting of "Washington Crossing the Delaware" was painted by Emmanuel Leutze while he was actually living in a town on the Rhine?

***

...the New York Public Library was a bequest of John Jacob Astor from the village of Waldorf in Germany who became a living fulfillment of the Horatio Alger story?

***

...Civil War cartoonist Thomas Nast, who created the Republican elephant, the Democratic donkey and Santa Claus, was born in Landau, Germany?

***

...the liberals fleeing Germany after the abortive revolution in 1848 actually dreamed for a while of setting up an independent German Republic in America and then to take democratic ideals back to their home principalities, and that a book in 1821 actually advocated colonization of Texas?

***

...and that most of the '48ers soon turned their energy toward helping to build America? Among them were Johann Augustus Roebling who built the Brooklyn Bridge, Ottmar Mergenthaler, inventor of the "Linotype," and electrical "wizard" Charles Steinmetz.

***

...176,817 German Americans fought in the Union Army in the Civil War, far exceeding their number in relation to other nationalities?

***

...many German immigrants were supporters of the Labor Movement. Among them was John Peter Altgelt who as Governor of Illinois from 1893 to 1897, pardoned the surviving defendants of the "Haymarket Massacre" trial on the grounds that they were innocent and who was largely responsible for the populist platform of the 1869 Democratic campaign?

***

...General John Pershing, who commanded the American Army campaign against Germany in World War I was himself of German extraction?

***

...Albert Einstein, Max Ernst, and Max Horkheimer were only a few of the German emigrants who chose America for their new home when they had to leave Germany to flee Nazi persecution?

***

...that 35 million American citizens today--one out of every six--can trace their ancestry to Germany?

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Most of above facts were drawn from "The Germans in America" by Adolph Schalk, published by Claretian Publications, Chicago, Illinois.

(9/600)

4, 7/1/75 For Immediate Release

ELEMENTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JOHN J. McCLOY FUND (JMF)

1. Name

John J. McCloy Fund for the American-German Exchanges.

2. Setting up of John J. McCloy Fund (JMF)

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany will establish on the occasion of the 80th birthday of John J. McCloy on March 31, 1975 a John J. McCloy Fund for American-German Exchanges as a gift to the United States of America through the American Council on Germany within the framework of the Federal Republic of Germany's contribution to the Bicentennial of the American Revolution.

The Fund will be provided by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany with a capital of one million US-Dollars and will be made available to and administered by the American Council on Germany on April 1, 1975.

3. Statement of Purposes

It is the aim of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany to see the following purposes achieved:

Furtherance of exchanges between the United States of America and the Federal Republic of Germany and meetings of important social groups not yet sufficiently included in existing programs; above all young politicians, young representatives of liberal professions, young trade unionists and youth leaders, junior journalists and other politically interested active personalities.

Furthermore support of American-German conferences and other projects and of important publications on American-German relations.

4. Utilization of means

It is contemplated that the JMF shall function for not less than a period of ten years and the funds will be disbursed with this in mind. Funds of the JMF may be used in part to cover a share of the programs and administrative costs of the ACG.

Additional contributions to the JMF may be received provided they are to be devoted to purpose consistant with the original Fund.

5. Selection Committee

A Selection Committee of the ACG for the JMF will be set up to select the programs of the JMF and the participants of those programs. For this purpose the Board of the ACG will appropriate each year an amount of at least 50.000 Dollars from the capital and interest of the Fund. The formal ratification of the selection decisions of the Selection Committee by the Board of the ACG will be effected with the aim to further the activities of the JMF, with due regard to legal requirements.

6. Composition of the Selection Committee

The Selection Committee of the ACG for the JMF will be composed of six Americans and two Germans as follows:

John J. McCloy and the executive director of the American Council on Germany (ACG) shall be ex officio members. In addition the Board of the ACG will nominate two of its members and John J. McCloy will nominate two independent American personalities. In the event John J. McCloy is incapacitated the Board of the ACG will act on his behalf. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany will nominate two independent German personalities. The period of office of the nominated members shall be five years, after which time they can be renominated.

7. Executive Director

It is contemplated, though not prescribed, that the position of executive director of the JMF is to be held by the person occupying the same post in the ACG.

ZEISS PLANETARIUM -- GERMAN BICENTENNIAL GIFT

On July 4, 1976, a one-million-dollar Zeiss Planetarium Projector will be dedicated in a festive inaugural ceremony as a gift from the people of West Germany to the people of the United States in celebration of the American Bicentennial.

The Zeiss Model VI planetarium projector will become a central attraction to myriads of visitors of the Einstein Spacearium at the new National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

This donation is part of Germany's broad participation in the American Bicentennial, which includes the endowment of chairs at two U.S. universities, the establishment of the John J. McCloy Foundation designed for exchange programs of young politicians, journalists, and scholars, and numerous cultural contributions. Walter Scheel, President of the Federal Republic of Germany, announced the gifts and projects at a White House dinner June 16.

Similar Zeiss instruments have been in operation for years in key cities throughout the United States; in fact, more Zeiss planetaria are installed in the U.S. than in any other country, attesting to the appreciation of the American public of such sophisticated machinery and of the marvelous educational opportunities and entertainment it provides.

After installation under a 70-foot dome on a turntable mounted on a hydraulic elevator, both of American manufacture, the projector will be equipped with an automatic control system custom-built, in cooperation with Zeiss, by Gyrosystems, Inc. of Farmingdale, New York. Thus, the new Washington projector will be the first Model VI with fully coordinated control of motion, light, and sound in all their complex interaction.

The Zeiss planetarium projects about 9,000 fixed stars in their natural configurations, many of them in their own distinctive colors or with their characteristic twinkling effects. Any point of the earth's surface can be taken as a viewpoint, and the heavens can be shown as they appeared or will appear, at any point in time, past or future, within a few millennia.

The starscapes seen from orbiting spacecraft and other space-travel effects can be so realistically simulated that astronauts of all space missions including the scheduled Appolo-Soyuz link-up have been trained in celestial navigation with the Zeiss Model VI at the Morehead Planetarium in Chapel Hill, N.C.

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